

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:WEGAN:JEL

APPROVED BY M:LSEAGLEBURGER

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

M ONLY

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O 270344Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185255

NODIS

FOR MATLOCK FROM EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, US, UR, A/MED

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. I BELIEVE EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS ALREADY SEEN TICKER REPORTS REFERENCING MEDICAL STUDIES CONDUCTED IN LATE SIXTIES. BELOW IS GUIDANCE PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN ON AN IF ASKED BASIS. THE ISSUE DID NOT ARISE AT TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING AND THE TEXT BELOW IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. IF YOU ARE QUESTIONED ON THIS ISSUE I SUGGEST YOU NOT COMMENT AND REFER ALL SUCH INQUIRIES TO THE DEPARTMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

QUESTION: WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT A SERIES OF BLOOD SAMPLES TAKEN FROM INDIVIDUALS WITH PRIOR MOSCOW SERVICE 10-12 YEARS AGO?

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ANSWER: IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1965, THE DEPARTMENT

OF STATE MEDICAL DIVISION REVIEWED THE MEDICAL RECORDS  
OF 407 INDIVIDUALS (139 EMPLOYEES AND 268 DEPENDENTS)  
WHO HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO MOSCOW SINCE 1953. THE RECORDS

WERE REVIEWED IN DETAIL FOR MEDICAL CONDITIONS CONSIDERED  
POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT WHICH MIGHT HAVE ARISEN DURING  
A MOSCOW TOUR AND DISCOVERED IN SUBSEQUENT PHYSICAL  
EXAMINATIONS. NO RECOGNIZABLE PATTERNS OF DISEASE OR  
EVIDENCE OF RECURRING PROBLEMS WERE NOTED. THE  
INCIDENCE OF ABNORMALITIES DID NOT APPEAR UNUSUAL.

BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1966 AND JANUARY 1967, THE DEPARTMENT  
OF STATE CONTRACTED ON A PRIVATE BASIS FOR A STUDY  
OF THE POSSIBLE CYTOGENETIC (CHROMOSOME) EFFECT OF THE  
MOSCOW SIGNAL. THIS STUDY WAS TO BE CONDUCTED ON THE  
BASIS OF BLOOD SAMPLES DRAWN FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO  
WERE SERVING OR HAD SERVED IN MOSCOW.

THIRTY-FIVE PATIENTS WERE STUDIED ON THE BASIS OF 36  
BLOOD SAMPLES (ONE REPEAT). I AM ADVISED BY OUR OFFICE  
OF MEDICAL SERVICES THAT ALTHOUGH SOME DATA WAS COL-  
LECTED, A REVIEW COMMITTEE OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS DETERMINED  
THAT NO VALID CONCLUSIONS COULD BE DRAWN FROM THE STUDY.

THAT REVIEW COMMITTEE CONSISTED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF NEW YORK, THE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, THE INSTITUTE FOR CANCER  
RESEARCH IN PHILADELPHIA AND THE JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL  
OF MEDICINE. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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